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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

19 JANUARY 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Tustin – Man Charged with Attacking Medical Workers at Vaccination Site

(U) A man accused of attacking medical staff at a Tustin vaccination site, and later groping a nurse while she was treating him, was charged yesterday with battery, and resisting arrest. Thomas Apollo, 44, of Poway is facing misdemeanor charges for allegedly attacking workers at the Families Together of Orange County Community Health Center's clinic on 30 December, according to the Orange County District Attorney's Office. Prosecutors described Apollo as acting erratically, accusing clinic workers of being "murderers" and responding to their requests for him to put on a mask or go back outside by using expletives. Prosecutors allege he punched one medical assistant five times and a second medical assistant twice before bystanders were able to pin him down. He refused to follow commands from a Tustin officer, who had to use a taser to subdue him before handcuffing him, prosecutors added. SOURCE: 19 January 2022, OC Register

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Alabama – Two California Men Found with Nearly 1,000 Pounds of Marijuana in Camper

(U) Montgomery – Two California men were jailed in Alabama after police said they found almost 1,000 pounds of marijuana worth nearly \$3 million hidden in a camper just off Interstate 20. An officer saw a camper running off the road while exiting the highway yesterday morning. The officer stopped the vehicle outside a store and the men agreed to a search, police said. Officers found 953 pounds of marijuana wrapped in plastic hidden throughout the camper, authorities said. Quan Xu, 32, of Mountain House, California, and Huaitian Li, 27, of Los Angeles were jailed on trafficking charges with bail set at \$1.5 million each. Court records were available to show whether either man had a defense lawyer. SOURCE: 19 January 2022, Associated Press

(U) Florida – Man Accused of Plotting Terrorist Attack Says FBI Used Illegal Aerial Surveillance

(U) Tampa Bay – The attorney for a man accused of plotting a terror attack in Tampa Bay says federal agents violated the suspect's rights and wants evidence in the case thrown out. Muhammed Momtaz al-Azhari's attorney described a "secret spy plane surveillance program" that illegally gathered 900 video clips of his client. Federal prosecutors argue the FBI did everything by the book and want the evidence to stay. In 2020, the FBI announced the arrest of 23-year-old Muhammed Momtaz al-Azhari, of East Tampa, who they say was loyal to ISIS. He was charged with providing material support to ISIS after they say he stockpiled weapons, expressed allegiance to the "caliphate" and worshipped the Orlando nightclub shooter.

SOURCE: 12 January 2022, Fox 13

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Burkina Faso – Four French Soldiers Injured in Burkina Faso Bomb Blast, Says Army

(U) Ouagadougou – Four French soldiers were wounded in an improvised explosive device blast in northern Burkina Faso. Their off-road vehicle activated an IED as it left Ouahigouya airport. The unit was part of the Barkhane operation, Paris' deployment in the Sahel against a jihadist insurgency. Four soldiers were wounded, including one seriously, the army said. Burkina Faso has been struggling with jihadist attacks since 2015, when militants linked to Al-Qa'ida and the Islamic State group began mounting cross-border raids from Mali.

SOURCE: 19 January 2022, France 24

(U) Norway - Norwegian Mass Killer Anders Breivik Appears Before Parole Hearing

(U) Utøya – Anders Breivik, the Norwegian far-right mass murderer behind the country's worst peacetime massacre, has appeared in court asking to be released on parole after serving 10 years in prison in near isolation for killing 77 people in a double bomb and gun attack in 2011. Breivik – who legally changed his name to Fjotolf Hansen in 2017 – attacked the country's government quarter in Oslo with a van bomb before heading to a youth camp being held by the country's Labour party on the island of Utøya where he killed 69 people, most of them teenagers, in a gun attack. During an hour-long speech at the hearing, in which Breivik flashed a Nazi salute, he said he had put violence behind him, offering to give up far-right politics and live abroad if he were released. SOURCE: 19 January 2022, The Guardian

(U) United Kingdom - Alleged Hostage Taker at Texas Synagogue Was Known to British Authorities

(U) London – The man who allegedly held people hostage at a Texas synagogue on Saturday may not have appeared on any American watch lists, but he was known to British authorities, law enforcement sources told ABC News. British authorities investigated Malik Faisal Akram, a 44-year-old British citizen, about a year ago and concluded he posed no threat that would have prohibited his travel from the United Kingdom to the United States, the sources said. Akram was named the slain suspect in the hour's long hostage-taking incident at the Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, about 27 miles northwest of Dallas. An armed man claiming to have planted bombs in the synagogue interrupted Shabbat services on Saturday just before 11 a.m. local time, taking a rabbi and three other people hostage, according to Colleyville Police Chief Michael Miller.

SOURCE: 19 January 2022, ABC News

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